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InFO

Information for Operators

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http://www.faa.gov/other_visit/aviation_industry/airline_operators/airline_safety/info

An InFO contains valuable information for operators that should help them meet certain administrative, regulatory, or operational requirements with relatively low urgency or impact on safety.

Subject: Common Pilot Type Rating between the B-777 and B-787

Purpose: This InFO reminds operators to ensure required training and checking is accomplished before a B-777 or B-787 pilot type rating is issued. In addition, it should be noted that a holder of a FAA pilot certificate with a B-777 endorsement *is not* automatically authorized for the addition of the B-787 type rating to the pilot's certificate without appropriate training and checking.

Background: Advisory Circular (AC) 120-53A defines a common pilot type rating as an "endorsement (is) issued after a pilot has received *differences training and checking*, where required, on the type-certificated aircraft for which there is a common pilot type rating designation." The B-787 Flight Standardization Board (FSB) has evaluated and validated the differences training and checking proposed by The Boeing Company and has determined that the B-777 and B-787 aircraft qualify for a common pilot type rating (IAW AC 120-53A).

Note: The FAA's B-787 FSB has only validated the B-777 to B-787 differences course. A B-787 to B-777 differences course is not available. Until a B-787 to B-777 differences course is developed and validated, a B-777 type rating cannot be awarded through a B-787 to B-777 differences training program.

Note: The partial proficiency differences check, unless it includes the requirements for a recurrent check, does not reset the "recurrent clock" (a pilot's base month for checking purposes).

Discussion: The FSB has determined that although the B-777 and B-787 aircraft have individual type certificates, the aircraft share common design features, similarities in flight deck design, and similar flight handling characteristics. The B-787 FSB evaluated several B-787 training courses in accordance with AC 120-53A. The validation process determined that the differences training and checking between the B-777 and B-787 at level D qualified the aircraft for a common pilot type rating. Level D training requires a level D maneuver device to train and check applicant performance using a scenario based "real time" flight environment. To qualify for a B-787 endorsement, individuals must meet the following requirements: (a) be current and qualified in the B777 aircraft, (b) have completed the minimum B-787 differences course, and (c) have successfully passed the B-787 partial proficiency check.

Recommended Action: Directors of operations, chief pilots, training managers, and operators of B-777 and B787 aircraft should familiarize themselves with the information found in this InFO, and ensure that the required training and checking is accomplished before a B-777 or B-787 pilot type rating is issued.

Contact: Questions or comments regarding this InFO should be directed to J.M. Eitel, Seattle Aircraft Evaluation Group (SEA AEG) at (425) 917-6619.